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Appeal For Press Restraint

President Kennedy has called upon the nation's press to "heed the duty of self-restraint."

"If you are awaiting a finding of clear and present danger," he told America's publishers, "then I can only say that the danger has never been more clear and its presence has never been more imminent."

Nearly all newspapermen will agree the danger is there, and it is great. Most will approve his suggestion that we re-examine our security practices.

Certainly few, if any, would print a story which they believed would endanger national security. The question is: Where does the threat to security begin? And where does the obligation to lay the facts before the American people leave off?

The President apparently speaks because of Cuba. The American press told of refugees in training, but there was almost no mention of CIA assistance. Surely Castro knew a great deal more about invasion plans than our newspapers published.

The facts remain. This undeclared war is of the utmost seriousness. No one must risk our security. The American press will, and must, face these facts.